

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-45 (canceled)

46. (new) A sandwich insert for insertion into an outer metal shell of an artificial hip joint comprising an inner ceramic sliding cup which is surrounded by a plastic cover, for insertion into an outer metal shell artificial hip joint, wherein the ceramic sliding cup has a stud at its outer end that is remote from an open end and arranged on axis of rotation or central axis of the sandwich insert, wherein a cross section of the stud at a right angle to the axis of rotation or central axis of the sandwich insert forms the shape of a polygon wherein the plastic cover embraces the sliding cup at its open end.

47. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 46, wherein the stud has an axial length of 1 - 8 mm.

48. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 46, wherein the stud is embraced in the plastic cover by means of a snap-fit connection.

49. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 46, wherein the stud projects completely through the plastic cover.

50. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 46, wherein the stud is surrounded at least in part by the plastic cover.

51. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 48, wherein the sliding cup is of a spherical or a stepped structural form on its outside.

52. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 46, wherein the cross section of the stud is an n-sided polygon, wherein n is 3, 4, 5 or 6.

53. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 46, wherein the sliding cup is pressed into the plastic cover.

54. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 46, wherein the stud has an axial length of approximately 2 mm.

55. (new) The sandwich insert of claim 52, wherein n is 3, 4, 5.

56. (new) The sandwich insert of claim 46, wherein a cross section of the stud is polygonal.

57. (new) The sandwich insert of claim 46, wherein n is 4.

58. (new) A sandwich insert for insertion into an outer metal shell of an artificial hip joint comprising an inner ceramic sliding cup which is surrounded by a plastic cover, wherein the sliding cup at a right angle to the axis of rotation central of the sandwich insert has a stud arranged on an axis of rotation or central axis of the sandwich insert at its outer end that is remote from an open end, wherein a cross section of the stud forms an oval shape.

59. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 58, wherein the stud has an axial length of 1 - 8 mm.

60. (new) A sandwich insert for insertion into an outer metal shell of an artificial hip joint comprising an inner ceramic sliding cup which is surrounded by a plastic cover, wherein the sliding cup at a right angle to the axis of rotation central of the sandwich

insert has a stud arranged on an axis of rotation or central axis of the sandwich insert at its outer end that is remote from an open end, wherein a cross section of the stud is a two-sided body.

61. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 46, wherein the stud projects into the plastic cover.

62. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 58, wherein the stud projects into the plastic cover.

63. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 58, wherein the stud projects completely through the plastic cover.

64. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 46, wherein n is 6.

65. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 58, wherein the stud is embraced in the plastic cover by means of a snap-fit connection.

66. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 60, wherein the stud is embraced in the plastic cover by means of a snap-fit connection.

67. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 58, wherein the sliding cup is of a spherical or a stepped structural form on its outside.

68. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 60, wherein the sliding cup is of a spherical or a stepped structural form on its outside.

69. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 58, wherein the sliding cup is pressed into the plastic cover.

70. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 60, wherein the sliding cup is pressed into the plastic cover.

71. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 58, wherein the stud has an axial length of approximately 2 mm.

72. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 60, wherein the stud has an axial length of approximately 2 mm.

73. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 58, wherein the stud has an axial length of 1 - 8 mm.

74. (new) The sandwich insert according to claim 60, wherein the stud has an axial length of 1 - 8 mm.

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ BLACK BORDERS
- ☐ IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- ☐ FADED TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- ☐ COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS
- ☐ GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS
- ☒ LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
- ☐ REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY
- ☐ OTHER: _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.